

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 ACDA-07 /073 W
-----033527 081520Z /50

O R 081130Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8424

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TU, CY, GR, US

SUBJECT: TURKISH INTEREST IN CYPRUS DEVELOPMENTS REMAINS HIGH

REF: ANKARA 5795 (DTG 031140Z AUG 77)

1. SUMMARY: ON AUGUST 5, FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL MADE THE FIRST OFFICIAL GOT STATEMENT FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS, IN EFFECT RESTATING GOT NON-ACCEPTANCE OF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS' LEADER AS PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS. TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH IS AGAIN QUOTED WIDELY IN THE TURKISH PRESS, AND AN INTERVIEW GIVEN BY NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY (NSP) LEADER ERBAKAN IS ALSO GIVEN PROMINENCE. IN NEWS COVERAGE, THE LEVEL OF ATHENS' INVOLVEMENT IN THE SELECTION OF A REPLACEMENT FOR MAKARIOS WAS STRESSED (REFTEL). REPORTS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GREEK REACTION TO FAILURE OF TURKISH EMBASSY IN ATHENS TO FLY FLAG AT HALF STAFF DURING THE WEEKEND GOT WIDE PLAY. COMPOSITION AND SIZE OF CONTINGENT REPRESENTING USG AT MAKARIOS' FUNERAL ALSO WIDELY REPORTED. END SUMMARY.

2. SPEAKING DURING A STOP AT ISTANBUL AIRPORT (EH IS CURRENTLY ON VACATION), CAGLAYANGIL SAID IT IS THE VIEW OF

THE GOT THAT BECAUSE THE CONSTITUTION OF CYPRUS HAS BEEN VIOLATED BY THE GREEK CYPRIOTS SINCE 1963, THE CONSTITUTION IS NO LONGER IN EFFECT, AND THE GOT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT A NEW LEADER CHOSEN BY THE GREEK CYPRIOTS AS CYPRUS' HEAD OF STATE. "THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT AGREES WITH THE VIEW EXPRESSED BY TURKISH FEDERATED STATE OF CYPRUS (TFSC) PRIMIN KONUK ON AUGUST 3 THAT IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO ACCEPT THE CLAIM THAT THE NEW LEADER WILL BE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS. HE WILL ONLY REPRESENT THE GREEK (CYPRIOT) COMMUNITY," CAGLAYANGIL SAID. (COMMENT: AFTER TURKISH CYPRIOT PARTICIPATION IN THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT ENDED WITH THE 1963-64 INTERCOMMUNAL FIGHTING, THE GOT TOOK THE POSITION THAT MAKARIOS AND HIS GOVERNMENT WERE OCCUPYING OFFICE ILLEGALLY. THE GOT HAS INCREASINGLY STRESSED THIS POSITION SINCE THE CREATION OF THE "TURKISH FEDERATED STATE OF CYPRUS". THUS CAGLAYANGIL'S STATEMENT REPRESENTS NO NEW DEPARTURE. WHAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, HOWEVER, IS THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE GOT WILL PRESS OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO ADOPT ITS VIEW NOW THAT THE CONSTITUTIONALLY ELECTED PRESIDENT IS DEAD.)

3. TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH IS QUOTED IN THE PRESS OVER THE WEEKEND AS SAYING THAT THE DEATH OF MAKARIOS REMOVES AN IRRITANT AND PROVIDES THE POSSIBILITY FOR "NEW LEADERSHIP, NEW OPPORTUNITIES, AND A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON THE 'REALITIES'." HE ALSO IS REPORTED TO HAVE COMMENTED THAT ACHIEVING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN CYPRUS WILL DEPEND ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE NEW GREEK CYPRIOT LEADER.

4. THE INTERVIEW OF NSP LEADER ERBAKAN WITH WEEKLY NEWS-MAGAZINE YANKI (REPORTEDLY ALSO PUBLISHED OR TO BE PUBLISHED IN TIME) WAS QUOTED IN TURKISH PRESS REPORTS AUGUST 8. ERBAKAN TOLD YANKI'S REPORTER THAT THE NSP CONTINUES TO VIEW THE TURKISH POSITION IN CYPRUS AS INFLEXIBLE. HE ASSERTED THAT CONCESSIONS ARE NOT EVEN CONSIDERED. REITERATING NSP DOGMA ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION, HE SAID, "WE WANT PEACE AND TRANQUILITY IN CYPRUS. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, IT IS NECESSARY THAT THERE BE TWO SEPARATE NATIONS AND TWO SEPARATE SECTORS." IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT WHAT EFFECT THE DEATH OF MAKARIOS WILL HAVE ON THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS, HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE ANSWERED, "IF A RIGHT MINDED MAN REPLACES MAKARIOS,

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SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 ACDA-07 /073 W
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O R 081130Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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WE WILL BE PLEASED. WE WANT THE GREEKS TO LIVE PEACEFULLY
IN THEIR OWN SECTOR AS MUCH AS WE WANT THE TURKS TO LIVE
IN TRANQUILITY AND PROSPERITY ON THE LAND WHICH WAS PARTITIONED
FOR THEM."

5. AS ANTICIPATED IN REFTTEL, WEEKEND PRESS HIGHLIGHTED
INTENSE GREEK INTEREST IN SELECTION OF NEW GREEK CYPRIOT
PRESIDENT. SENSATIONALIST GUNAYDIN REPORT FROM ATHENS
CLAIMS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE IS MAKING AN ALL OUT
EFFORT TO ASSURE THAT ITS CANDIDATE IS CHOSEN AS
MAKARIOS' SUCCESSOR. ACCORDING TO MOST TURKISH PRESS
ACCOUNTS, THE LEADING CANDIDATE PREFERRED BY THE GOG IS
TASSOS PAPADOPOULOS, WHO IS DESCRIBED AS MAKARIOS' RIGHT-
HAND MAN. HOWEVER, ONE REPORT NOTES THAT ACTING CYPRIOT
PRESIDENT SPYROS KYPRIANOU IS CONSIDERED THE SECOND BEST
AFTER PAPADOPOULOS AND THE CANDIDATE MOST LIKELY TO BE
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ACCEPTABLE TO GREEK CYPRIOT FACTIONS.

6. AUGUST 7 PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT THE REFUSAL OF THE
TURKISH EMBASSY IN ATHENS TO FLY ITS FLAG AT HALF STAFF HAS
CREATED A STRONG NEGATIVE REACTION IN ATHENS. GUNAYDIN
ADDS THAT GREEK AUTHORITIES REGARD THIS ACTION AS AN INSULT
TO GREEK HONOR. (COMMENT: EMBOFFS NOTED ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

THAT FLAG AT GREEK AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE WAS FLYING AT HALF STAFF. THIS HONORING OF MAKARIOS ON ONLY DAY OF WEEK ON WHICH FOREIGN MISSIONS ARE PERMITTED TO FLY THEIR NATIONAL FLAG IN TURKEY APPARENTLY CAUSED NO NEGATIVE REACTION HERE.)

-7. MOST SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS ALSO REPORT COMPOSITION OF AMERICAN DELEGATION WHICH WILL REPRESENT PRESIDENT CARTER AT THE FUNERAL OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS. THE AMERICAN 12-MEMBER DELEGATION IS DESCRIBED AS THE LARGEST NATIONAL DELEGATION BEING SENT TO THE FUNERAL. PRESS HIGHLIGHTS THE ATTENDANCE OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S SISTER, RUTH STAPLETON, CLARK CLIFFORD, AND SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY. ONLY ONE NEWSPAPER MAKES NOTE OF THE FACT THAT THE DELEGATION IS HEADED BY CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT, WARREN BURGER.

8. IN CONTRAST TO PREVIOUS DAYS, MAKARIOS' DEATH AND SITUATION IN CYPRUS HAVE VIRTUALLY DISAPPEARED AS EDITORIAL TOPIC IN TURKISH PRESS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, DEATHS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ANKARA05893
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770284-0919
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
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Image Path:
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Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ANKARA 5795
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Date: 30-Aug-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1680030
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH INTEREST IN CYPRUS DEVELOPMENTS REMAINS HIGH
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TU, CY, GR, US, NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY (NSP), (MAKARIOS, ARCHBISHOP III), (ERBAKAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/04dd5160-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009